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Endurance.

Yet nerve thy spirit to the proof,
And blanch not at thy chosen lot;
The timid good may stand aloof,
The sage may frown—yet faint thou
not,
Nor need the shaft too surely cast,
The foul and hissing bolt of scorn;
For with thy side shall dwell at last
The victory of endurance born.
—WM. CULLEN BRYANT.

Fisher's Hill, Va.

Aug. 9.—Bro. Cain of Waterloo, Iowa, has some very sensible admonitions in his article of Aug. 4th.

If the College is suffering for the want of pecuniary support, then, perhaps, it would be wise to give what money we expect to spend in going to the convention to the college. But it is a question, and a very sensitive one, whether the money spent on the convention could be gotten for the college. If it could, then, perhaps, it would be best not to have the convention this fall and save the college instead. If we go to the convention to formulate plans and adopt resolutions and make platforms; certainly this is not all that will be required. Money will be necessary to carry out those plans and platforms. And if our church is called on for donations for the college, and donations for building churches, and donations to carry out the proceedings of the convention, and donations for state evangelistic work, and donations for the ministry; I fear some may become disgusted at the word donation. But if it is not possible to make the money expended, attending the convention, available for other church purposes or college work; certainly then have the convention by all means. Perhaps some who will not give in support of the college, may give to mission work or church building, and thereby gain by having the convention which may form a more complete system of such work. To gratify my own personal desire, I would rather have the convention. Besides having a desire to meet our brethren and hear and see what we can do to further the gospel, and make ourselves better, and perfect a more uniformity of minds. I have a personal, selfish desire, that is, to see God's moral vineyard between here and Ashland, Ohio. I think a decided majority here in Va., are in favor of the convention.

How are the churches to be represented at the convention—by delegates or a delegate from each congregation or by all who may attend? I think that all who may attend should have a voice in the convention.

Bro. E. Eby of the Brethren in Christ says, "We have Sabbath schools, but no picnics, no church fairs." Now I think this is very good gospel doctrine. Christ went into the temple of God and cast out all them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the money changers and the seats of them that sold doves, and said my house shall be called a house of prayer but you have made it a den of thieves. This, I think,

would correspond to our church fairs of today, when they sell all kinds of sweet-meats, raffle off cakes and sell votes to crown some lady queen of beauties: all done, too, for the cause of Christ.

Picnics are not to be recommended, especially the Gents-to-the-center and Oh-be-joyful kind.

A Sabbath school celebration or something strictly moral and religious, is not to be condemned at all. I think something of this kind is both pleasant and good for children and parents. Oft times a promise made to a child to take it to a Sabbath school celebration, will keep it from going to something considerable worse.

Bro. Shaver has been in the field looking after his Master's business but have not heard the result of his meetings.

I noticed in last weeks *Herald* the death of the first of our beloved fraternity in this congregation. It is that of Sister Lydia Kate Booth. I copy the editor's notice from the *Herald*, "Died in Powells Fort, on Friday morning, July 30th, 1886. Miss Lydia Kate Booth, daughter of Corydon and Lydia Booth, of consumption, aged 20 years, 5 months and 26 days.

Although a great sufferer during her long illness she bore all with a patient resignation but seldom witnessed, sustained during all her trials and in the hour of death by the firm and unwavering faith and trust in the Christian religion she so long professed and adored. She was a member of the Progressive Dunkard church." Sister Booth was converted under Bro. Shaver's preaching and baptized by him.

In the notice several weeks ago for the Va. brethren to make out church reports for the Annual, a mistake occurs, it should have been, that any one who may think the church secretaries should not notice this request, (by not taking the *EVANGELIST*.) Should themselves make out the report or get some one to do it.

I have not heard from any one of them yet. I trust the brethren will please attend to it soon.

Bro. John Culp's "Prophecies in Our Times," is interesting to me. We would like to have his exposition in full of Daniel 12:11.

We are watching Bro. Hol-singer's maneuvering around. We kind of keep one eye on him and the other on our pocket books, for fear he may slip down here and skim us off before we have coagulated.

Cream is scarce down here just now, but blue milk plentiful. Sometimes, though, milk is better than cream, that is, when we can't get the cream.

G. A. COPP.

Springfield, Ill.

August 9th, 1886.—Dear readers of the *EVANGELIST*: On Friday, the 30th of July, I started from Dayton, Ohio, to Flora, Ind., to fill my regular monthly appointments there. Arrived in time to attend the Sabbath school celebration held in a beautiful grove near the town of Flora.

On Saturday, August the first, a number of other ministers, as well as myself, were requested to, and did address the large number of people assembled on that occasion.

I preached as usual on Saturday evening, Sunday and Sunday evening, in the Baptist church in Flora; good interest manifested. On Sunday afternoon and on Monday afternoon, we met for song service, being led by Prof. A. S. Jones, formerly of Tiosa, Ind., who also was present at all our meetings and rendered us valuable aid in leading the music for us. On Monday night the professor entertained the people of Flora by delivering an able and interesting address on the subject of temperance. He is looking well, in good spirits, and contemplates entering upon his professional labor, giving instructions in vocal and instrumental music, early in the fall. He was met by some of his old students and friends from this part of the State at the Sabbath school picnic above referred and they had a good time. They requested him to stay a week or so with them and attend a musical Jubilee that is soon to come off, but he could not.

On Thursday the 5th, I started to fill my appointments at Auburn, Ill. I was taken from Flora to Delphi, the county seat of Carroll Co., Ind., and a station on the Wabash line of R. R. I had several times before stopped at a hotel near the depot, as I also did on this occasion. Never before this time had I formed any acquaintance with the proprietor or his wife. But upon this occasion I formed their acquaintance, and was made to feel at home and was treated as a friend. The lady was a member of the German Baptist's; the husband had been raised a Presbyterian but was not a member of any church, but under conviction, desiring to become a member of Christ's fold. And they having heard of the Brethren, desired to know more about them and as I had till eleven o'clock to wait for the train, I gave them the information they desired with the following good results: Sister Graham (for that was the name) said she was tired of Dunkard traditions and was ready to unite with the Brethren; and her husband said he was ready to go with her and will be baptized at his first opportunity. They are young people yet, and I hope the Lord will be with them, and bless them, and that they may be a valuable accession to the Flora church.

I found all prospering finely as usual at Auburn, and am now awaiting the evening train in Springfield, and aim to join Bro. Mallott, at Edna Mills, tomorrow evening and spend a few days with him, then I will join my family again in Ohio.

J. A. RIDENOUR.

Milford, Indiana.

The regular monthly meetings for the Milford class was held in brother Daniel Tom's beautiful grove near town. Had preaching

Saturday evening, and Sunday August 1st. The people brought their dinners and some extra provisions that none should be "put to shame that had not," and the day was spent as follows: 10:30 a. m., song service, Bro. H. P. Moyer, chorister; Miss Jessie McDonald, organist. 11:15 a. m. preaching by R. F. Mallott. 12:15 p. m. Repaired to the waterside where 4 persons who had previously made applications were buried with Christ in the likeness of his death, John 19:30, thus saying to the hundreds standing on the shore: "It is finished!"—a life of sin; I "bow," adieu to the world! I arise with Christ to "walk in the newness of life."

May these truths be symbolized by all baptisms and may the grace of our God be sufficient to keep us all from falling. We then adjourned to eat dinner, but was delayed one hour by an acceptable rain that refreshed greatly the parched earth. The rain was greatly needed and the people sought shelter in Bro. Tom's house and barn; also top buggies afforded good shelter. I did not hear a murmur on account of the inconvenience occasioned by the rain—a commendable feature, you know we are so prone to this weakness—murmuring "its too dry," "too wet," "too cold," or "too hot;" a good deal like the children of Israel journeying through the wilderness to the promised land. I hope we shall not suffer for so complaining, but may God's grace permit us to enter our promised land.

Well after dinner at 3 p. m., Bro. Moyer led us in a song while the children gathered in front of the stand, the older people filling up the rear. Bro. Montgomery then led us in prayer, invoking God's good spirit to fill all of our hearts with the riches of His love that both parents and children might be instructed in the afternoon service. The children joined in singing "Precious Jewels", "Hold the Fort," &c. Then through the use of a black-board held a children's meeting. After a brief exhortation I extended an invitation as I usually do at Milford, and one more united in fellowship with us. An estimable young lady. The people were then dismissed and a sister who had previously made application was baptized.

I was then driven by brother Early to Nappanee for evening service, at the close of which one more was received into the Brethren church at this place. We had a good meeting. At least that is the way I felt and Bro. Leslie who I find to be a good thermometer said the same. I omitted to say that we took up a collection on the ground at the grove meeting. I did not learn the amount, but it ranged between \$30 and \$40. The object was toward furnishing the new church. While I was there the building committee bought their furniture. They bought the best among the samples shown in the contest that was held among the salesmen representing

the firms from Chicago, Ill., Wabash and Auburn, Ind.

The Wabash man won the victory. Since Bro. Fisher's death there are but 4 members on the building committee, but there is no need of a fifth to break a tie. They are a unit. Behold how good and how pleasant it is for Brethren to build churches together in unity. Father Horton, one of the leading citizens and also among the oldest in Milford, is a leading factor in the upbuilding of our people at this place. He has our thanks for assisting in the last meeting. Frat.

R. F. MALLOTT.

Sherwood, Ohio, 8-6-86.

Fennville, Mich.

We have just been having a glorious meeting. Bro. Clark came the 3rd of August, as he intended and on Wednesday, the 4th we had an organization. Though few in number, the Lord was with us and hence we had a good meeting. Assembled in the school house, No. 5 Clide. Meeting opened in regular order, and the reading of the 3rd chapter of the first Epistle of John. Bro. Clark explained why the Brethren practiced trine immersion, the Lord's Supper, feet-washing, anointing of the sick, etc. Also the brethren and sisters agreed to take the Bible for their only rule of faith and practice, and Bro. H. H. Snyder was granted License to preach and improve his talent in preaching the gospel of Christ. Your unworthy correspondent was appointed secretary, and sister Emma Ream treasurer. Bro. Clark is a whole-souled brother, and the right man in the right place. He came about fifty miles to gather up a few lost sheep. God bless him. He continued to preach for us until Sunday evening. In all he preached eight sermons. His discourse on Sunday was to the children. He made many impressions and got the promise of two to unite with us the next time he would come, and we think more are near the kingdom. God help them to come ere it is too late.

Pray for us Brethren and sisters everywhere, that we hold out faithful, and that God may cause a church to be built up in this part of his moral vineyard. Hereafter we will be known as the Fennville church, Mich. Your sister in Christ.

JANE H. REAM.

Dayton, Ohio.

Bro. Wm. Summers and wife, of North Manchester, Ind., accompanied by the Sabbath school superintendent and his wife, passing through this city, on an excursion to the Soldier's Home, stopped off and gave us a short call.

Bro. Summers preached in the Brethren church to an attentive congregation on Monday evening. On Tuesday evening he preached for the Brethren at Bear Creek.

May the Lord abundantly reward our brother for his faithful service in the proclamation of His word.

SAMUEL KIEHL.

August 11th, 1886.